

*Credit card account* is a credit account established in conjunction with the issuance of, or the extension of credit through, a credit card. This term includes loans made to consolidate credit card debt, including credit card debt held by other lenders, and participation certificates, securities and similar instruments secured by credit card receivables.

*Home loans* include any loans made on the security of homes (including a unit of a condominium or cooperative), combinations of homes and business property, farm residences, and combinations of farm residences and commercial farm real estate.

*Loan commitment* includes a loan in process, a letter of credit, or any other commitment to extend credit.

*Real estate loan* includes any loan for which a Federal savings association relies substantially upon the real estate as the primary security for the loan. A loan is made on the security of real estate if:

(1) The security property is real estate pursuant to the law of the state in which the property is located;

(2) The security interest of the Federal savings association may be enforced as a real estate mortgage or its equivalent pursuant to the law of the state in which the property is located;

(3) The security property is capable of separate appraisal; and

(4) With regard to a security property that is a leasehold or other interest for a period of years, the term of the interest extends, or is subject to extension or renewal at the option of the Federal savings association for a term of at least five years following the maturity of the loan.

*Small business* includes a small business concern or entity as defined by section 3(a) of the Small Business Act, 15 U.S.C. 632(a), and implemented by the regulations of the Small Business Administration at 13 CFR Part 121.

*Small business loans* and *loans to small businesses* include any loan to a small business as defined in this section; or a loan (including a group of loans to one borrower) that meets the original amount restrictions and other criteria for “loans to small businesses and small farms” as defined in the instructions for preparation of the Thrift Financial Report.

[61 FR 50971, Sept. 30, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 60184, Nov. 27, 1996; 62 FR 15825, Apr. 3, 1997]

## Subpart A—Lending and Investment Powers for Federal Savings Associations

### § 560.30 General lending and investment powers of federal savings associations.

Pursuant to section 5(c) of the Home Owners’ Loan Act (HOLA), 12 U.S.C. 1464(c), a federal savings association may make, invest in, purchase, sell, participate in, or otherwise deal in (including brokerage or warehousing) all loans and investments allowed under section 5(c) of the HOLA including, without limitation, the following loans, extensions of credit, and investments, subject to the limitations indicated and any such terms, conditions, or limitations as may be prescribed from time to time by the OTS by policy directive, order, or regulation:

LENDING AND INVESTMENT POWERS CHART

Category	HOLA authorization	Statutory investment limitations (Endnotes contain applicable regulatory limitations)
Bankers’ bank stock .....	5(c)(4)(E) .....	Same terms as applicable to national banks.
Business development credit corporations .....	5(c)(4)(A) .....	The lesser of .5% of total outstanding loans or \$250,000.
Commercial loans .....	5(c)(2)(A) .....	20% of total assets, provided that amounts in excess of 10% of total assets may be used only for small business loans.
Commercial paper and corporate debt securities.	5(c)(2)(D) .....	Up to 35% of total assets. <sup>1,2</sup>
Community development loans and equity investments.	5(c)(3)(B) .....	5% of total assets, provided equity investments do not exceed 2% of total assets. <sup>3</sup>

## LENDING AND INVESTMENT POWERS CHART—Continued

Category	HOLA authorization	Statutory investment limitations (Endnotes contain applicable regulatory limitations)
Construction loans without security .....	5(c)(3)(D) .....	In the aggregate, the greater of total capital or 5% of total assets.
Consumer loans .....	5(c)(2)(D) .....	Up to 35% of total assets. <sup>1,4</sup>
Credit card loans or loans made through credit card accounts.	(5)(c)(1)(T) .....	None. <sup>5</sup>
Deposits in insured depository institutions	5(c)(1)(G) .....	None. <sup>5</sup>
Education loans .....	5(c)(1)(U) .....	None. <sup>5</sup>
Federal government and government-sponsored enterprise securities and instruments.	5(c)(1)(C), 5(c)(1)(D), 5(c)(1)(E), 5(c)(1)(F).	None. <sup>5</sup>
Finance leasing .....	5(c)(1)(B), 5(c)(2)(A), 5(c)(2)(B), 5(c)(2)(D).	Based on purpose and property financed. <sup>6</sup>
Foreign assistance investments .....	5(c)(4)(C) .....	1% of total assets. <sup>7</sup>
General leasing .....	5(c)(2)(C) .....	10% of assets. <sup>6</sup>
Home improvement loans .....	5(c)(1)(J) .....	None. <sup>5</sup>
Home (residential) loans <sup>8</sup> .....	5(c)(1)(B) .....	None. <sup>5,9</sup>
HUD-insured or guaranteed investments ..	5(c)(1)(O) .....	None. <sup>5</sup>
Insured loans .....	5(c)(1)(I), 5(c)(1)(K) .....	None. <sup>5</sup>
Liquidity investments .....	5(c)(1)(M) .....	None. <sup>5,10</sup>
Loans secured by deposit accounts .....	5(c)(1)(A) .....	None. <sup>5,11</sup>
Loans to financial institutions, brokers, and dealers.	5(c)(1)(L) .....	None. <sup>5,12</sup>
Manufactured home loans .....	5(c)(1)(J) .....	None. <sup>5,13</sup>
Mortgage-backed securities .....	5(c)(1)(R) .....	None. <sup>5</sup>
National Housing Partnership Corporation and related partnerships and joint ventures.	5(c)(1)(N) .....	None. <sup>5</sup>
Nonconforming loans .....	5(c)(3)(C) .....	5% of total assets.
Nonresidential real property loans .....	5(c)(2)(B) .....	400% of total capital. <sup>14</sup>
Open-end management investment companies <sup>15</sup> .	5(c)(1)(Q) .....	None. <sup>5</sup>
Service corporations .....	5(c)(4)(B) .....	3% of total assets, as long as any amounts in excess of 2% of total assets further community, inner city, or community development purposes. <sup>16</sup>
Small business investment companies <sup>17</sup> ..	5(c)(4)(D) .....	1% of total assets.
Small-business-related securities .....	5(c)(1)(S) .....	None. <sup>5</sup>
State and local government obligations ...	5(c)(1)(H) .....	None. <sup>5,18</sup>
State housing corporations .....	5(c)(1)(P) .....	None. <sup>5,19</sup>
Transaction account loans, including overdrafts.	5(c)(1)(A) .....	None. <sup>5,20</sup>

**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> For purposes of determining a Federal savings association's percentage of assets limitation, investment in commercial paper and corporate debt securities must be aggregated with the Federal savings association's investment in consumer loans.

<sup>2</sup> A Federal savings association may invest in commercial paper and corporate debt securities, which includes corporate debt securities convertible into stock, subject to the provisions of § 560.40. Amounts in excess of 30% of assets, in the aggregate, may be invested only in obligations purchased by the association directly from the original obligor and for which no finder's or referral fees have been paid.

<sup>3</sup> The 2% of assets limitation is a sublimit for investments within the overall 5% of assets limitation on community development loans and investments. The qualitative standards for such loans and investments are set forth in HOLA section 5(c)(3)(B), as explained in an opinion of the OTS Chief Counsel dated May 10, 1995 (available upon request at the address set forth in § 516.1(a) of this chapter).

<sup>4</sup> Amounts in excess of 30% of assets, in aggregate, may be invested only in loans made by the association directly to the original obligor and for which no finder's or referral fees have been paid. A Federal savings association may include loans to dealers in consumer goods to finance inventory and floor planning in the total investment made under this section.

<sup>5</sup> While there is no statutory limit on certain categories of loans and investments, including credit card loans, home improvement loans, education loans, and deposit account loans, OTS may establish an individual limit on such loans or investments if the association's concentration in such loans or investments presents a safety and soundness concern.

<sup>6</sup> A Federal savings association may engage in leasing activities subject to the provisions of § 560.41.

<sup>7</sup> This 1% of assets limitation applies to the aggregate outstanding investments made under the Foreign Assistance Act and in the capital of the Inter-American Savings and Loan Bank. Such investments may be made subject to the provisions of § 560.43.

<sup>8</sup> A home (or residential) loan includes loans secured by one-to-four family dwellings, multi-family residential property and loans secured by a unit or units of a condominium or housing cooperative.

<sup>9</sup> A Federal savings association may make home loans subject to the provisions of §§ 560.33, 560.34 and 560.35.

<sup>10</sup> The assets qualifying as liquidity investments are described in § 566.1(g) of this chapter. The maturity limitations (except those for bankers acceptances) of § 566.1(g) of this chapter do not apply for purposes of this section.

<sup>11</sup> Loans secured by savings accounts and other time deposits may be made without limitation, provided the Federal savings association obtains a lien on, or a pledge of, such accounts. Such loans may not exceed the withdrawable amount of the account.

<sup>12</sup> A Federal savings association may only invest in these loans if they are secured by obligations of, or by obligations fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by, the United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities, the borrower is a financial institution insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or is a broker or dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the market value of the securities for each loan at least equals the amount of the loan at the time it is made.

- <sup>13</sup> If the wheels and axles of the manufactured home have been removed and it is permanently affixed to a foundation, a loan secured by a combination of a manufactured home and developed residential lot on which it sits may be treated as a home loan.
- <sup>14</sup> Without regard to any limitations of this part, a Federal savings association may make or invest in the fully insured or guaranteed portion of nonresidential real estate loans insured or guaranteed by the Economic Development Administration, the Farmers Home Administration, or the Small Business Administration. Unguaranteed portions of guaranteed loans must be aggregated with uninsured loans when determining an association's compliance with the 400% of capital limitation for other real estate loans.
- <sup>15</sup> This authority is limited to investments in open-end management investment companies that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Investment Company Act of 1940. The portfolio of the investment company must be restricted by the company's investment policy (changeable only if authorized by shareholder vote) solely to investments that a Federal savings association may, without limitation as to percentage of assets, invest in, sell, redeem, hold, or otherwise deal in. Separate and apart from this authority, a Federal savings association may make pass-through investments to the extent authorized by § 560.32.
- <sup>16</sup> A Federal savings association may invest in service corporations subject to the provisions of part 559 of this chapter.
- <sup>17</sup> A Federal savings association may only invest in small business investment companies formed pursuant to section 301(d) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958.
- <sup>18</sup> This category includes obligations issued by any state, territory, or possession of the United States or political subdivision thereof (including any agency, corporation, or instrumentality of a state or political subdivision), subject to § 560.42.
- <sup>19</sup> A Federal savings association may invest in state housing corporations subject to the provisions of § 560.121.
- <sup>20</sup> Payments on accounts in excess of the account balance (overdrafts) on commercial deposit or transaction accounts shall be considered commercial loans for purposes of determining the association's percentage of assets limitation.

[61 FR 66577, Dec. 18, 1996]

**§ 560.31 Election regarding categorization of loans or investments and related calculations.**

(a) If a loan or other investment is authorized under more than one section of the HOLA, as amended, or this part, a Federal savings association may designate under which section the loan or investment has been made. Such a loan or investment may be apportioned among appropriate categories, and may be moved, in whole or part, from one category to another. A loan commitment shall be counted as an investment and included in total assets of a Federal savings association for purposes of calculating compliance with HOLA section 5(c)'s investment limitations only to the extent that funds have been advanced and not repaid pursuant to the commitment.

(b) Loans or portions of loans sold to a third party shall be included in the calculation of a percentage-of-assets or percentage-of-capital investment limitation only to the extent they are sold with recourse.

(c) A Federal savings association may make a loan secured by an assignment of loans to the extent that it could, under applicable law and regulations, make or purchase the underlying assigned loans.

**§ 560.32 Pass-through investments.**

(a) A federal savings association ("you") may make pass-through investments. A pass-through investment occurs when you invest in an entity ("company") that engages only in activities that you may conduct directly and the investment meets the require-

ments of this section. If an investment is authorized under both this section and some other provision of law, you may designate under which authority or authorities the investment is made. When making a pass-through investment, you must comply with all the statutes and regulations that would apply if you were engaging in the activity directly. For example, your proportionate share of the company's assets will be aggregated with the assets you hold directly in calculating investment limits (e.g., no more than 400% of total capital may be invested in non-residential real property loans).

(b) You may make a pass-through investment without prior notice to OTS if all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) You do not invest more than 15% of your total capital in one company;
- (2) The book value of your aggregate pass-through investments does not exceed 50% of your total capital after making the investment;
- (3) Your investment would not give you direct or indirect control of the company;
- (4) Your liability is limited to the amount of your investment; and
- (5) The company falls into one of the following categories:
  - (i) A limited partnership;
  - (ii) An open-end mutual fund;
  - (iii) A closed-end investment trust;
  - (iv) A limited liability company; or
  - (v) An entity in which you are investing primarily to use the company's services (e.g., data processing).

(c) If you want to make other pass-through investments, you must provide